



THE SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS  
WASHINGTON

March 8, 2005

Name 0 Veteran  
Street Address  
City ST 00000-0000

Dear Veteran

We at the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) thank you for your service to our country. We are grateful to all the men and women who risked their lives to fight terrorism in Afghanistan, Iraq, and many other places around the world. America is more secure because of your participation in these hazardous operations.

You received this letter because the Department of Defense notified VA that you have been released from active duty although you may still be a member of the Reserves or National Guard. If this is not the case the information which follows will not apply to you until you are released from active duty. If you are still a member of the Reserves or National Guard the following information does apply to you.

VA can offer you a wide range of health care benefits and assistance to aid in your transition to civilian life. VA can provide combat veterans with two years of free health care for any health problem that is possibly related to service in a designated area of military conflict. It can also pay compensation for service-connected disabilities and provide other benefits.

Information about health care and benefits is provided in the enclosed brochures:

A Summary of VA Benefits

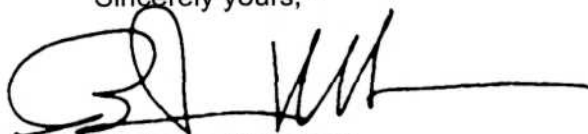
A Summary of VA Benefits for National Guard and Reserve Personnel

Our benefits offices and medical centers will assist you. If you have questions about benefits or health care you can contact VA toll-free by dialing 1-800-827-1000 for benefits information and by dialing 1-877-222-8387 for information on health care eligibility. You may also visit the VA Web site at [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov). The VA home page links to the Iraqi Freedom/Enduring Freedom Web site that describes benefits for returning veterans.

If you need help with personal and family concerns following your return from military service, or with other community readjustment issues such as finding a job, please contact a Vet Center which you can locate by calling the toll-free numbers above or by visiting [www.va.gov/rccs](http://www.va.gov/rccs).

On behalf of President George W. Bush and a grateful Nation, thank you for your service,

Sincerely yours, \*



R. James Nicholson

Enclosures